(Rupees in Lakhs)

	Foreign Banks	31.03.1999	31.03.2000	31.03.2001
30	Mashreq Bank psc	673	807	1282
31	Morgan Guranty Trust Company of New York	0	124	217
32	Oman International Bank S.A.O.G.	705	917	766
33	Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd.	335	296	211
34	Sakura Bank Ltd.	641	502	608
35	Sanwa Bank Ltd.	801	867	860
36	Siam Commercial Bank Ltd.	1132	977	941
37	Societe Generale	803	688	513
38	Sonali Bank	67	15	83
39	Standard Chartered Bank	312	572	618
40	Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Ltd.	390	407	443
41	State Bank of Mauritius Ltd.	906	1304	1293
42	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	873	769	834
43	Toranto Dominion Bank	354	385	646

Circulation of soiled notes in Gujarat

1022. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Silent rally taken out in Rajkot on soiled notes issue" which appeared in the Times of India, Ahmedabad edition dated the 12th July 2001;

(b) whether soiled notes being pushed to Gujarat through Saurashtra, Tejura, Rajasthan are not being accepted by the shopkeepers;

(c) whether RBI involvement is also there;

(d) whether there is acute shortage of coins in Gujarat;

(e) the number of branches of RBI who exchange soiled notes; and

(f) the steps being taken to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no evidence to show inflow of soiled notes into Gujarat through Saurashtra, Tejura and Rajasthan. Special drives

have been undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to withdraw soiled notes from circulation in Gujarat. During the period April 1 to 30th Sept, 2001, RBI has withdrawn 221 million pieces of soiled notes from circulation in Gujarat.

(d) No, Sir. RBI is regularly supplying coins to the currency chests in Gujarat State and about 281 million pieces of coins of various denominations have been distributed in the State till October, 2001.

(e) There are, at present, 311 currency chests of various banks in Gujarat where soiled notes can be exchanged. In addition, the facility of exchange can be availed at the RBI's office at Ahmedabad.

(f) In addition to special drives being undertaken by the RBI, all the banks have been directed to sort out the notes and to send the non-issuable soiled notes to the RBI for destruction.

Disappearance of soiled notes from RBI, Bangalore

1023. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether misappropriation and disappearance of soiled notes worth Rs. 50.5 lakh from RBI Bangalore, has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, what action has been taken as yet by the appropriate authority; and

(c) whether similar happenings have taken place in any branch of RBI during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. An incident of pilferage of Rs. 50.50 lakh of soiled notes from one of the Vaults of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Bangalore was reported to the RBI, Central Office on October 13, 2001.

(b) An FIR was lodged immediately after the incident. Based on preliminary investigations, one of the joint custodians of the